Equal Rights

VOL. XVIII No 44
FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 3, 1932

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Mrs. Paul Myron Linebarger

Chairman of the National Woman's Party of the District of Columbia, who is also actively associated with other women's clubs in Washington as well as Shanghai. Her Chinese associations are due to her husband's thirty-year activity in Oriental politics; at present Judge Paul Myron Linebarger is legal adviser to and special envoy of the National Government of China. The sketch here reproduced was drawn from life by Elizabeth Wright Crosby of Washington, D. C.

Equal Rights

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Washington, D. C.
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Baltimore, Md.
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Entered as second-class matter at Postoffice, Baltimore, Md., Under Act March 3, 1879.

Subscription, $2.00 a Year
Foreign Subscription, $2.50

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution Number 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929, by Senator Gerald P. Nye, North Dakota.

Introduced in the House January 11, 1932, by Representative Louis Ludlow, Indiana.

Down With It

IT IS a perfectly obvious fact that no woman can ever be as valuable to her employer as a man if she quits work upon marriage. This for the clear reason that her training as well as her daily output has value. An untrained employee is not of so much use as a trained employee, therefore, plainly, training in itself is a commercial consideration.

More particularly with regard to the higher posts where long training is required, this point is of the utmost importance. No employer can afford to train people for posts high up in the service if there is a chance that they may all of a sudden in the prime of life retire for any reason whatsoever.

Every woman who leaves her position when she marries cuts her feminine co-employees' value to the employer by an unknown but appreciable quantity. "Women" in the bulk have cost the employer the price of training this particular woman. He charges up the bill, as he must, to women in general.

Every woman, in her marriagability, is a liability to her employer in the item of training. No man is. Hence one reason for the different market value of the two sexes.

Put it to yourself. Would you rather spend hours, weeks, years, in training a personable young man or woman in your establishment? If you have a business head you will see that an attractive young woman, in order to make the venture worth your while, must pay for a special sort of insurance in your behalf out of her own salary. Since she may desert you at any time for marriage, she must pay for her training as she goes along. A woman's wage and a man's wage are determined in some degree by precisely this factor.

How atrocious therefore to force women by law to resign their positions on marriage. They not only lose their own salaries by this unjust procedure, but they bring down the economic value of every other wage-earning woman.

We have had enough of it. Women know that marriage no longer offers them a secure economic footing. They have got to go on working anyhow and they might just as well be paid for it.

Women have votes and they want the Married Persons' Clause in the Economy Act repealed. They want it and they will have it, and every right-thinking man will help them in the undertaking. The Married Persons' Clause is treason to nature; it is dysgenic and contrary to the interests of the nation. That it is unconstitutional as being class legislation seems also probable.

A False Philosophy

ON ANOTHER page of this issue under the title, *The "Protected" Women of Maryland,* we present to our readers a few authentic facts with regard to the wages and working conditions of women in one of the States that enjoys the highly questionable benefits of "protective" legislation. To an impartial observer it might appear, upon reading the article, that "protection for women only" had failed of its objective in Maryland.

Protective legislation for women only predicates that womanhood is tantamount to a disease. The woman does as much work as a man, and does it equally well, but the employer pays her less because, forsooth, she is a woman. She becomes an involuntary scab. The philanthropist oppressed by her need rushes to her aid, writes in the laws that woman is not the equal of man. And the employer? Naturally he does not pay an employee more than he has to. He is running a business, not a charitable institution. Label women invalids by law and they will get an invalid's pay; then since they are not invalids and can do the work of a man, at less cost to the employer, they will either take the job away from a man or bring down his pay into the neighborhood of theirs. It is as plain as a pikestaff, but still many people do not see it.

One of our contemporaries however, *The Journal of Commerce,* in its issue of November 15, indicates that it sees the light of day. Commenting editorially on a recent dictum from the Women's Bureau. *The Journal* says:

"There is no use ringing changes on the demand for equal pay for equal work, when the work is not equal and the conditions under which it is performed limit the freedom of action of the employer in ways that would not be necessary if only men were employed. The standards of pay for women will never be improved by sentimentalizing about their underpaid and overworked condition.

"If the people who write about women in industry would spend less time pitying them, they would have more opportunity to discuss ways and means of elevating women's wages by the only means by which they can be increased—that is, by raising their standard of efficiency instead of demanding more and more invidious special privileges that tend to make women liabilities to their employers."

Anna E. Dickinson—Pioneer Campaigner

By Alma Lutz

SO many women have been campaigning in the recent presidential election that it is hard for us to realize that there was a time not so very long ago, in the fifties and sixties, when it was entirely out of woman's sphere to speak in public on the affairs of the nation, and when such attempted indiscretion not only brought down upon women scorn, indignation, and ridicule, but the anathemas of the church as well. No matter how eloquent a woman might be, it took great courage to defy the conventions and to face a hostile public.

Anna E. Dickinson had that courage, and because of this courage, and her independence of thought and real gift for oratory, she became our first woman political campaigner. Her death a few weeks ago and the many comments of the press have been reminders to the women of America of the debt of gratitude they owe to this pioneer Feminist who swept away barriers and blazed the trail for them.

Obliged to earn her living at an early age, Anna Dickinson encountered the difficulties and discriminations which beset women wage earners. Intelligent and a hard worker, it was humiliating to be paid half of what a man had received for doing the same and often less efficient work. When offered $16 a month to teach a district school for which men had received $28, she indignantly exclaimed to a member of the school committee, "Though I am too poor today to buy a pair of cotton gloves, I would rather go in rags, than degrade my womanhood by accepting anything at your hands."

She attended all the meetings in her locality where "woman's rights and wrongs" were discussed, and each time spontaneously rose to her feet and plead for justice and equal opportunity for women with such eloquence that her audience was spellbound. It was in these meetings that she realized her gift as an orator and soon was in demand at anti-slavery and temperance meetings. She was so young and disarming, so attractive with her black curls, rosy cheeks, her flashing eyes, so well poised and unruffled in spite of unfriendly interruptions that she always won the hearts of her listeners, even if they had come to ridicule and oppose.

After the outbreak of the Civil War when she was nineteen years of age, she gave a series of lectures in the towns near Philadelphia on the political aspects of the war. Hearing her, William Lloyd Garrison was so impressed that he invited her to visit Boston. She spoke in Theodore Parker's pulpit in Music Hall on "The National Crisis" and wholly satisfied her critical Boston audience.

After her success in New England, she hoped to earn her living by lecturing but the way was slow and hard until in 1861, the Secretary of the State Republican Committee heard her lecture on "Hospital Life" in Concord, New Hampshire. He was so impressed that he said, "If we can get this girl to make that speech all through New Hampshire, we can carry the Republican ticket in this State in the coming election." Through his influence she was engaged to tour the State, the first woman election campaigner in this country. Her campaign was a triumph for the Republican Party, and for Anna Dickinson. Her eloquence and the novelty of a woman speaking drew crowds everywhere. So great was her success, that Connecticut next demanded her services. Her reception there was overwhelming. How highly her services were regarded may be judged by the following comments of the Connecticut press:

> "The highest compliment that the union men of this city could pay Miss Anna E. Dickinson was to invite her to make the closing and most important speech in this campaign. They were willing to rest their case upon her efforts. She may go far and speak much; she will have no more flattering proof of the popular confidence in her eloquence, tact, power, than this."

The climax of her career was the tremendous ovation she received at Cooper Institute, New York, in May, 1862, when crowds stampeded to hear her lecture, "The Day—The Cause," which dealt with the conduct of the war and the ideals for which the North was fighting. She was called the Joan of Arc of her age, and while there were some of her auditors who thought her speeches were too brilliant for a woman to compose and attributed them to Wendell Phillips, Charles Sumner, and George William Curtis, the majority were ready to acclaim them as the products of her genius. She had broken down in one more field the claim of woman's inferiority.

Essay Contest Arouses Interest

ARKANSAS is leading other States in the number of college women who have entered the Equal Rights Essay Contest of the National Woman's Party. This is due in part to the general, progressive spirit of a State that has the only woman United States Senator; in part to the enterprize of intelligent women leaders in that State who have made a special campaign to see that women students at every college and university in Arkansas know about the contest. More than two hundred young women are competing in the State.

California comes second in number of contestants. There is not a State in the Union which does not have representation in the contest, which means that education of women to a realization that they do not have equal protection of the laws and equal opportunity for happiness and achievement under the laws in receiving nation-wide impetus.

Letters of many of the young college women indicate that only the ignorance of women as to their actual status under the law could have so long held them in subjection. One letter received at headquarters wished information as to what "the law" could be in the United States that discriminates against women. Yet she lives in a State where the law upholds the right of a husband to collect his wife's wages, a discrimination that would send this college girl into the ranks of the most militant feminists, should she happen to marry a man who is no better than the law.

Other letters indicate that while the writers knew of discriminations in the law that had caused suffering and much bitterness in their own localities, they had not before realized the extent of legal injustice in each State, or the impossibility of obtaining equality that will be permanent except through an amendment to the Federal Constitution.

Perhaps the most frequent comment from college women who have received material from headquarters on which to base statements in writing essays, deals with awakened consciousness with regard to the need of labor laws that apply always to "persons" who must compete in a given industry or profession; and to the viciousness of labor laws that apply only to women.

These college women had no difficult in understanding that the recent advisory opinion of the World Court that means to bar women executives, but not men, from night work, means primarily that there will be no women executives under these conditions. No matter if a boy and girl have worked their way through college, side by side, each paying an equal price for the preparation needed for success, after graduation the girl is to be limited by law and held back from accepting responsibility and attaining success,

while the boy is left free to achieve the best that is in him. She will be held by law to low pay and monotony; he may become the well-paid executive of an interesting post.

Because any phase of the proposed Equal Rights Essay Contest may be used as a subject for an essay, the college women are finding it possible to do research work along the line that interests them most, whether it be discriminations against the women in the home, in the office or the factory.

Terms of the contest are as follows:

I. Subject:

Any phase or phases of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution.

II. Rules:

1. Essay to be not more than 3,000 nor less than 2,000 words in length.
2. Contestants must be undergraduate women carrying full time schedule (15 hours) in 1932 or 1933. Proof of such standing must be submitted in an official statement from the college.
3. Essays must be unsigned, and accompanied by a sealed envelope containing the author's name. This envelope must bear the title of the essay, and that alone.
4. Essays must be mailed not later than midnight, February 1, 1933.

III. Judges:

Inez Haynes Irwin, president of Authors' League of America,

Ruth Hale, president of the Lucy Stone League.

Fannie Hurst, novelist and short story writer.

Judge Genevieve R. Cline, Judge of the United States Customs Court.

Mrs. Fremont Older, novelist, Dramatist, historian.

IV. Prizes:

First Prize—$500 and trip to Washington, D. C., for the award.

Second Prize—$200 and trip to Washington, D. C., for the award.

These prizes are the gift of Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont, president of the National Woman's Party.

V. Awards:

Prizes will be conferred in a ceremony at Alva Belmont House, in Washington, National Headquarters of the National Woman's Party, in June, 1933.

VI. Material:

Each applicant will be furnished a uniform set of selections from research material on the status of women assembled by the Research Department of the National Woman's Party, but original research by the contestants is urged.

The "Protected" Women of Maryland

MARYLAND is one of the many States of the Union in which the argument is frequently advanced that the Equal Rights Amendment should not be added to the Federal Constitution because it would jeopardise "protective" legislation for women only.

Maryland now has on her statute books a number of these "protective" laws so it is of great practical interest to learn what the condition of labor women is in that State.

This we are fortunately able to do at the present time as an authoritative investigation has recently been carried through in Baltimore City with regard to the wages and working conditions of women in the clothing industry.

This is one of the greatest woman-employing industry in the State. The investigation was conducted at the request of Mayor Jackson of Baltimore, by Dr. Jacob H. Hollander of the Johns Hopkins University with the aid of various competent persons who lent their assistance.

At the outset of the investigation Mayor Jackson issued the following statement:

"I have asked Dr. Jacob H. Hollander, one of the noted political economists of Johns Hopkins University, to investigate the situation in Baltimore City with respect to working conditions in the clothing industry.

"The disturbances which have resulted from strikes and attempts to picket certain factories seem to be getting more serious. Committees from the strikers and from the workers' organizations have visited me several times in the City Hall, and have complained about the conditions in some of the factories.

"I do not know whether these complaints are justified, nor what power or authority the Mayor of Baltimore has in that connection. However, it may be helpful to the public understanding if a fair and impartial investigation of the entire matter is made by a disinterested person, and the result of that investigation with such recommendations as may be advisable, is submitted to the Mayor and made a matter of public record.

"For this reason, I have asked Dr. Hollander to undertake the work of making the investigation and preparing the report. I am glad to say that Dr. Hollander has agreed to serve the public in the capacity I have suggested."

We present herewith excerpts from the official report which was submitted to Mayor Jackson by Dr. Hollander on October 24 of this year:

Baltimore is one of the principal centers of the men's clothing industry in the United States; in 1927, the last year for which comparative figures can be obtained, it occupied fifth place. The 1929 Census of Manufacturers showed 214 establishments in the industry here, with a total of 9400 wage earners, with wages of approximately $8,600,000 and with products valued at approximately $43,300,000.

At the present time there are 65 manufacturers and 133 contractors in the industry in Baltimore, with a total of about 6800 employees.

Baltimore is a low wage town, the claim of the union officers being that wages are lower here than in any other of the ten principal centers of the industry in the country. That wages are lower here than in most other places would seem to be borne out by the Census of Manufacturers, which showed that in 1927, the last year for which figures are available, Baltimore, with 5.7 per cent. of the number of wage earners in the country, paid only 4.3 per cent. of the wages. Nor was this an unusual year, for in 1925 Baltimore had 6.2 per cent. of the wage earners and paid 4.8 per cent. of the wages, and in 1923, with 5 per cent. of the wage earners, it paid 4 per cent. of the wages. Since clothing is sold in a national market, with all the principal centers in competition, it would seem that the low wages paid here would have a tendency to depress wages elsewhere in the industry.

The direct labor cost of a garment sold at retail for $20 is not more than $3.50, and though this sum increases for higher priced suits, the proportion going to labor decreases. Nevertheless, the intense competition caused by the depression has reduced considerably the compensation of labor, that being the item of expense usually reduced first. Wages have fallen until most of the girls earn between $5 and $8 per week, most of the men earning between $10 and $20. Since the employee, because of the highly seasonal nature of the industry, works as a rule only thirty or thirty-two weeks in a year, probably three-fourths of the men have been earning not more than $500 a year. Five or six years ago the average wage of men employed in the industry was about $30 per week. The percentage of females employed has been steadily rising, until today it is about 60 per cent.

Sweatshop conditions exist in Baltimore despite a law designed to end them, passed by the Maryland Legislature in 1902. The Commissioner of Labor and Statistics is charged with the enforcement of the law.

In recent years there has been a tendency for some employers to move their

shops to small towns in Maryland, West Virginia, and elsewhere, where wages are lower, hours longer, labor disturbances fewer, and there are fewer losses of time because of holidays observed by one or another racial or religious group. Another important motive leading to the establishment of these suburban shops, as they are called, is the desire to escape the union.

Some of the large, as well as many of the small, employers in the industry customarily give finishing work to female employees to be done at home. Particularly among certain of the racial groups in the industry, work is taken home to be performed by the entire family, small children sometimes engaging in simple operations such as cleaning.

The causes of the present strike were the general unsatisfactory conditions prevailing in the industry, particularly low wages, lack of security, unsanitary conditions, and the practice of cutting wages by dismissing employees and hiring others at lower compensation.

The present controversy in the garment industry centers to a very considerable extent about the charges of the workers that the conditions in many of the shops are unsanitary to the degree, not only of injuring the health and well-being of the workers, but of constituting a menace to the public health of the city.

Most of the factories appeared rather dirty and disorderly, and it was seldom found that any regular janitor service was provided.

Toilet facilities in the garment factories were invariably bad. In accordance with the State Law, separate toilets for men and women were provided. These toilets were nearly always dirty, without sufficient ventilation, and in some instances, without supplies of toilet paper. The toilets on two floors of the Industrial Building were inspected. They were not very clean, and roaches were seen in them. However, the Industrial Building toilets were modern construction and with proper janitor service could easily be kept in excellent condition. It seemed doubtful whether the number of toilets provided on each floor would be sufficient to meet the needs of several hundred people, the number understood to be working on some floors of the building.

The only facilities for washing hands in all factories were sinks with running cold water. No soap or towels provided by the management were observed in any factory visited.

Drinking water in nearly all instances was obtained from the same sink as that used for washing hands. As a rule, no cups were furnished; the workers usually kept a milk bottle filled with water at their benches or machines. The Maryland State Law prohibits the use of the common drinking cups in public places.

The small factories were entirely without rest rooms either for men or for women, and in none of the larger factories was there a properly equipped rest room such as should be provided, at least for female workers, for use in case of illness or emergency.

Chairs were furnished workers in all factories, there being a Baltimore City ordinance requiring that chairs be provided for female employees.

One third-floor factory was found to be without fire escapes, and in other second-floor factories the only means of exit besides the windows were dark wooden stairs. Fire buckets were observed in all factories visited, but extinguishers were seldom seen. The greatest fire hazard encountered seemed to be gas flames used for pressing.

No factory was seen in which an efficient mechanical system of ventilation had been installed. Windows were generally fairly numerous, but in few places were any large number of them open.

Gas irons formed a part of the equipment of all the factories, and gas boilers were frequently used for heating steam presses.

Safety devices on the presses to prevent hand injuries were not seen in any factory. A small concern reported that a presser received a serious injury about one year ago.

In a bulletin of the Women's Bureau on "Women in Maryland Industries" (1922) there is a chapter summarizing conditions in the garment trade at that time. It speaks of the large number of small plants where the equipment and working conditions were poor. They were usually in old dwelling houses with dark, dirty entrance and stairs, insufficient ventilation and light, insanitary toilets and no washing or drinking facilities except an iron sink with common drinking cup and towel. But it states that in striking contrast to these small shops there were larger factories with excellent sanitary and working conditions. Since that time many of these large factories have closed. The small shops are much the same as in 1922 and a number of the larger concerns now operating are housed in the Industrial Building, which has little to recommend it from the standpoint of general cleanliness and sanitation. It is probable that the sanitary conditions in the garment industry are on the whole less good than in 1922.

Although twice as many women are under 30 years as are over it, the trade is by no means given over to young girls. The fact that almost one-half of those interviewed were between 20 and 30 years shows that they are mature, and that they have not acted without weighing the consequences.

If the sample of women workers interviewed is typical of the trade, very few of the employes in the men's clothing industry are foreign born. Only one-seventh of our sample were born outside of the United States, and the majority of the native-born women were born in Maryland.

The trade seems to be one which married women continue in after marriage, and to which widows return when the necessity for supporting their families is thrust upon them. Less than one-half of the women interviewed were single. The presence in the trade of women with responsibility for the support of others than themselves is also witnessed by the answers to questions bearing upon the economic status in the family of the person interviewed. It was found that almost one-half were either the chief or the only breadwinners in their families. Fully three-fourths were contributing toward the support of others besides themselves. The failure of men to find employment in industry may account for the financial responsibilities of some of these women (a few of them reported their husbands to be out of work), but the long work experience of many of them antedates the depression of 1929-1932. The investigator had the impression, as she interviewed these people, that they were deadly serious in the measures they had taken to improve their economic position and that they had acted with considerable deliberation.

There seems to be little doubt that the Maryland law limiting to 60 the number of weekly hours which industrial women spend in their place of employment is being violated during the busy season of the clothing industry. Employes are sometimes required to punch the time clock at the hours for quitting work which would make their total weekly hours to be within the legal limit, and are then required to work overtime. Several women reported this practice to the investigator. Hand sewers and even in some cases machine operators often report for work as early as seven o'clock in the morning. (One woman stated that she was at work in the factory every morning at a quarter to seven, although eight o'clock is the official hour for beginning work.) They hope to complete more pieces of work by coming early to work than they could in the normal work day. The small employers whose shops were visited emphatically stated that their employes worked from eight in the morning until five or six in the evening, and from eight to one on Saturdays. With one exception they admitted allowing overtime work when rushed, but claimed that special overtime rates were paid for that work.

More than two-thirds of the women interviewed reported their last fulltime weekly wage to have been in the range of $5 or more but less than $10. The mean (arithmetic average) wage of the group interviewed is $8.60, the median is $8.00.

Apart from the methods of wage payment, we also wished to ascertain the adequacy of the wages earned to meet the needs of the workers. To this end a part of the schedule was made up of questions concerning the cost of living, the items grouped under the four following subjects: food, rent or lodging, clothing, sundries. After the schedules were returned, we selected a sample of six cost-of-living statements made by single women. All items in these statements are included in the cost of living budget for women of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. Furthermore, the statements seemed to the investigator to be reasonable minimum estimates of the cost of the various items.

From the data supplied for each of the items there was calculated the average weekly expenditure of each of the women in the sample. Then the average weekly expenditure of the group of six was calculated. The mean was found to be about $9.50. For purposes of comparison we sought out the latest authoritative cost of living study for the industrial woman. Such a minimum calculated for the industrial woman in Nova Scotia was selected. The Nova Scotia budget contained all of the items listed above and a few others made necessary by the more severe climate. The Nova Scotia minimum weekly cost of living is $11.00. The Baltimore minimum cost is probably slightly lower, even though the carfare item, for example, is in Baltimore $1.20 and in Nova Scotia 50 cents. We are inclined to believe that the figure of $9.50 represents the minimum weekly cost of decent living for the industrial woman in Baltimore. This conviction is borne out by the cost of living figures for certain items, such as rent, insurance, food, clothing and carfare, which we listed for all of the schedules in the sample of 94 cases.

In view of the fact that only one-fourth of our 94 women earned that much ($9.50) the last week of full-time employment in the busiest season of the year, and that three-fourths of the women are contributing to the support of others besides themselves, it seems perfectly clear that the majority of them have been living for the past year at least on a scale below the decent minimum. One is therefore not surprised to find on many of the schedules statements to the effect that assistance is given weekly by the Family Welfare or the church or by friends, and to discover on a still greater number statements of debts incurred for living expenses. Obviously, for the majority of the women employees whom we have observed and interviewed, the current wage is inadequate for a minimum decent living.

Press Comment

Untrammeled Eves

Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, Calif., November 13, 1932.

SCRUTINY of a recently published résumé of State laws affecting the activities of women shows that of all her sex the housewife leads the most free and untrammeled existence. Only in four States do her sisters share her unrestrained liberty. Alabama, Florida, Iowa and West Virginia have no statutes regulating the work of women.

In Iowa, where no woman may be employed as a bellhop, the woman who doesn't have to work, but stays at home and takes care of her house, can bellhop to her heart's desire. She can be, and usually is, at the beck and call of her family and the law cannot intervene because she doesn't get paid for it.

Seventeen States have adopted laws that prohibit women from engaging in mining activities. The home makers of those States can laugh at these laws as they dig into corners for dirt or wield spade and hoe in the backyard in order to transmute vegetables into silver down at the corner grocery.

Colorado will not permit women wage earners to work in coke ovens. Because she isn't a wage earner, the Colorado housewife can stand over a kitchen range to her heart's content, feeding that range with coke if she so desires, and none can say her nay.

Six States make blanket provision that women shall not underake tasks disproportionate to strength or health. Again the home maker can ignore these blanket provisions, even to the extent of washing the blankets.

In thirteen States the woman wage earner is to have from thirty minutes to an hour for meals. The housewife can take as long as she desires for hers, in addition to preparing them and washing the dishes.

In forty-seven States the woman wage earner is entitled to a stool or straight-backed chair. The housewife has a half-dozen types at her service if she can find time to occupy them. Nor is she held down by any statute limiting her daily activities to eight hours.

The woman who stays at home and keeps house can do anything she wants when she wants. She doesn't have to work for money. Whatever her husband can spare when all other demands have been met is hers for the asking.

Remove the Marriage Bar!

The Vote, London, England,

LUGUBRIOUS articles appeared last week in the press because no woman succeeded winning a place in the recent examination for administrative appointments in Whitehall. "Not only," we are told, "did they fail to win a place, but—more ominous feature — they only put six candidates in the field, this being the smallest number of women competing in the examination since they first became eligible in 1925."

It will be remembered that in 1925 twenty-seven women entered this Class I examination, which is regarded as the stiffest in the world, lasting a whole month and imposing a great physical and mental strain on the examinees, and only honours men and women at the universities have much hope of succeeding. In 1925 the women captured three of the places. In 1926 and 1927 there were twelve women candidates, and in the latter year the successful woman candidate was awarded the maximum of 300 marks for personality. Since 1927 fewer women candidates have competed each year, and writers in the press are now busy telling the world that women have realized that this examination is too severe for them, and that here, at any rate, they cannot hope to compete against men.

But are these writers correct in their conclusions? We are sure they are not. There is another side of the story which must be taken into account. Most of the women who take honours at the universities are keen on making a career for themselves and the Civil Service does not offer them sufficient scope or security. Only the higher posts in the home Civil Service are open to them, all posts in the diplomatic, consular, and trade commissioner service, in the colonial and dominions service, and in the Indian Civil Service being bolted and barred against them because of their sex. If women marry their career in the Civil Service automatically and finally closes. Is it to be expected then that women who have sufficient brains and capacity to take honours degrees will be anxious for a doubtful career in our home Civil Service? We do not think so. They are much more likely to take up medicine, the law, and other professions in which there is freer scope for their abilities and where all chance of continuing their career is not closed down if they choose to get married.

Women to the Front

The Spokesman-Review, Spokane, Wash., November 15, 1932.

EIGHTEEN courthouse officials and deputies had their picture taken at Ephrata, Grant County, recently. In the group were nine women, nine men. Forty or fifty years ago, "when you and I were young, Maggie," the court-

house force anywhere in this country would have been all men.

The most revolutionizing influence in the United States within half a century has not been the telephone, the automobile, the airplane, motion pictures or growth of electrical energy, but the tremendous migration by women into fields of business, industry and professional and official life. All the other changes combined could not so profoundly alter the national customs and standards.

Feminist Notes

Soviet Makes Wife Equal

THE woman of present-day Russia occupies precisely the same status as man in marriage, and a wedding is one of the few occasions for which an interruption of individual working hours is permitted in the Soviet Union, according to the New York *Times*.

The law of matrimony, as in every other phase of life here, makes no distinction between the sexes, but the government's encouragement of the wedded state is seen in its instructions to officials not to hinder employes who may wish to patronize the Marriage Bureau during working hours.

Likewise, child-bearing commands premiums from the government in the form of monetary awards and extra privileges.

At the nearest registration office — a bureau where marriages, divorces, births and deaths are recorded—a couple pays 2 rubles, answers a few questions and becomes formally united in wedlock. One is compelled to support the other if he or she is out of work or ill, and their combined property automatically becomes jointly owned. Honeymoons are considered wasteful extravagance.

Each party has a right to retain his own name or both may adopt entirely new ones. Change of residence by either party does not oblige the other to do likewise.

Couples living together without the formality of registration definitely are recognized as married and enjoy the same property rights. They also have the privilege of formally recording their marriage from any prior date desired.

Childbirth automatically converts an illicit relationship into a legal marriage, thus compelling the father to bear his share of expenses involved in the birth and support of the child. Such children have the same rights as others and bear the father's name.

The first of the benefits accruing to parents is a present of 90 rubles in cash from the State to an infant as soon as he is registered. About thirteen yards of cloth and a set of bed clothing also are forthcoming, but of even more value is the additional ration card which enables the family to buy extra bread, eggs, butter, sugar and other privileged foods. Parents also enjoy lower rent and less house tax.

For the mother, if she is a worker, four months' leave with full pay is allowed, two months before and two months after birth. If she is an "employe," or white-collar worker, she gets three months and full pay. Nine rubles monthly is paid the mother for the first nine months while weaning the child.

Hospitalization is provided free and there is a scientific research institute both for mother and child if the family is extremely poor. If the mother is employed outside the home, as hundreds of thousands of them are, there are nurseries and kindergartens. School attendance at the age of 7 is compulsory.

Girls Wanted

THE results of the Olympic Games at Los Angeles last summer will be the cause of a return of Italian women to sports and a reversal of the government's stern decision forbidding participation by women in sporting events, Leandro Arpinati, Under-Secretary of Interior and president of the Italian Olympic committee, announced recently.

Child Weddings in India Increase

FIFTY children, including thirty-nine girls less than 5 years old, are listed as married in Mysore State, says the *Associated Press*. Child brides between 5 and 10 total 21,224, while married boys of those ages number only 359. Marriage of girls less than 8 years old was banned by a law passed in 1894.

Woman Argues Before Supreme Court

THE Supreme Court listened on November 11 to a forceful argument by Alice E. Alexander, counsel for the Michigan Corporation Tax Appeal Board.

Women frequently are admitted to practice before the highest court, but since Mabel Willebrandt was Assistant Attorney General seldom have any presented oral arguments.

New Congresswoman From Kansas

KATHRYN O'Loughlin, new Democratic Representative in Congress from the Sixth Kansas District, became accustomed to racing before she began her political campaign. As a child she scurried under fences to escape charging Texas longhorns and later in life she became proficient in riding bronchos.

She defeated eight men in the primary and won over Charles I. Sparks, Republican incumbent, in a normally Republican district.

She took up law to escape a humdrum life as a bookkeeper in her father's garage, acted as clerk for the house judiciary committee of the Kansas legislature, served as editor of a legislative service bulletin for an insurance firm and two years ago became the first woman representative in the legislature from Ellis County.

This 38-year-old congresswoman enjoys golf but her hobby is sewing. Tall and slender, she wears her brunette hair bobbed.

Claims Turks Are Superior

PRINCESS ECMA, 24-year-old great granddaughter of the self-styled Sultan Abd-el-Kader of Algeria, who settled in Damascus after a stormy desert career 80 years ago, finds American men less sympathetic toward women's rights than are men in her native Turkey.

She is studying journalism and philosophy in Rockford College, Illinois.

In Turkey, she says, men now are helping women to become "emancipated," whereas European and American women have had to fight for their right to vote, to coeducation and other feminist planks.

Harems and veiled women are things of the past in Turkey, explains Princess Ecma as she tells of the Turkish women who have become doctors, lawyers and judges.

Indiana Elects First Congresswoman

HONOR of being the first congresswoman from Indiana goes to Virginia Jenckes of Terre Haute, a Democrat. She defeated Congressman Fred Purnell, who is the ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee.

First Democratic Woman Elected

ANNE BRANCATO, of Philadelphia, is the first Democratic woman member of the Pennsylvania legislature. She is 29 years old.

X-Ray Pioneer Dies

DR. FLORENCE ADA STONEY, pioneer in X-Ray and ultra violet light treatment, died in London recently at the age of 62.

During the World War Dr. Stoney gained recognition for medical women to take an active part, and she served with the Women's Hospital in Antwerp during the bombardment by the Germans. As the hospital was in an old music hall next to a British ammunition dump along the Scheldt, the patients were removed hastily in boats just before the Belgians blew up a bridge nearby to stay the enemy's advance.

Afterward Dr. Stoney opened hospitals in Cherbourg and elsewhere in allied territory.

News from the Field

Watch for These Broadcasts

SELDOM do radio programs hold such widespread interest for women as a series of broadcasts by Inez Haynes Irwin announced for December.

In them the women of the country will get their first intimation of the type of material which will appear in a book recording the achievements of organized womanhood for the past century which Mrs. Irwin is writing for the National Council of Women.

Mrs. Irwin's broadcasts will follow the tentative outline of the book, and subjects and dates are announced as follows:

December 5, 3.30 P. M.—The Pioneers (Women of 1830).

December 12, 3.30 P. M.—The Vanguard (Women of 1840-1850).

December 19, 3.30 P. M.—The Army Marches (Women after 1860).

The broadcast will be a part of the Woman's Radio Review program and will be presented through Station WEAF, New York.

Meeting at Maryland Headquarters

CAPTAIN GEORGE MARSHALL was guest speaker before the regular weekly meeting of the Baltimore Branch of the National Woman's Party in its headquarters, 19 West Chase street, at 2 P. M. November 22. His subject was "Meeting the Present Economic Crisis." Vera Lewis Fowler, legislative chairman of the Baltimore City Branch, was hostess.

Laura Casartelli Cabrini

LAURA CASARTELLI CABRINI, internationally known Feminist and leader in the Italian Branch of the Woman Movement, died in Rome on October 24, 1932. Mme. Cabrini was one of the most distinguished women in Italy, and has a long record of distinguished service there. She was born in Delebio (Sondrio) on April 19, 1883, and began her Feminist activities as a school mistress in Milan, and soon after in Rome, where she lived for some twenty years. She collaborated in different school publications, periodicals, and published several pamphlets for children's use.

During the war she founded and directed several institutions of civil assistance, among them the "Laboratorio Assistenza e Lavaro," which gave work and assistance to thousands of women in Rome, and collaborated with the American Red Cross at Civita Castellana in the help to war refugees. She promoted the "Sala Emigranti," for help and assistance to emigrant workers, men and women, on their passage at the Termini Station in Rome. She was appointed adviser to the Italian Government Delegation at the International Labor Conference, held in Washington in 1919, and in Geneva in 1921.

She worked in almost all branches of the Woman's Movement; for higher education for women, for compulsory education for children, for woman's rights in Italy, and every humanitarian activity.

Our correspondent in Rome writes us that up to her last breath she worked for the welfare of others. In Mme. Cabrini's death the International Feminist Movement suffers a great loss.

New York Appoints Council Chairman

KATHRYNE BUCKLEY WITHROW has been elected chairman of the New York Government Workers' Council and is co-operating with Edwina Avery of Washington, D. C., in the effort to have the Married Person's Clause in the Economy Act repealed. The organization meeting of the New York Council was held recently at the home of Jane Norman Smith in New York City.

Maryland Appoints Bequest Chairman

JANE CROSBY, who graduated from the University of Michigan last June, and who is a member of the Baltimore County Branch of the National Woman's Party, has recently been appointed chairman of the Bequest Committee for the State of Maryland. She will co-operate with Burnita Shelton Matthews, chairman of the National Committee on Bequests, and is planning to have a conference with Mrs. Matthews in the near future to talk over the details of the work. Miss Crosby was one of the speakers at the recent conference of the State Branch of the National Woman's Party.

Wins Poster Design Award

GEORGE B. HOUCK, 21-year-old student in the School of Fine and Applied Arts of the Maryland Institute, Baltimore, has won the $50 award offered by the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs in its third annual contest for a National Business Women's Week poster, Miss Marjorie Shuler of New York City, publicity chairman, announced recently. His design, which illustrates the axiom that "the pen is mightier than the sword," will advertise National Business Women's Week in 1,300 communities March 5-11. It shows a modern business woman, pen in hand, silhouetted against the shadowy figure of an armed warrior.

Maud Younger Returns

A TEA will be given under the auspices of the Government Workers' Council, Sunday, December 4, from 4 to 6 P. M., at the Alva Belmont House, 144 B street N. E., Washington, D. C. Maud Younger has returned from California and this will give the Council an opportunity to welcome her, besides giving her an opportunity to outline the program for this winter.

It is suggested that each member write letters immediately to her Representatives and Senators, giving in detail her own reasons for asking their support for the repeal of Section 213. A copy of these letters should be attached to the answers received, and mailed or brought into headquarters, so that our poll of Congress can be completed at the earliest possible date.

Baltimore City Branch Program

THE December program of the Baltimore City Branch of the National Woman's Party will be as follows:

December 6—Business meeting. Hostess, Anna Blumberg.

December 13—Speaker, Edith Pilling, field secretary Woman's Civic League. Topic: "Foreign Cities from a Civic Standpoint." Hostess, Mollye H. Rollman.

December 20—Round Table Discussion; Hostess, Jennie Feddeman.

December 27 — Speaker, Emelie A. Doetsch, former Assistant City Solicitor of Baltimore City. Topic: "Old Age Pensions." Hostess, Florence G. Day.

The meetings will all be held at 19 W. Chase St., Baltimore, at 2 P M.

Dr. Willard Honor Guest

DR. DUDLEY WILSON WILLARD, professor of sociology at George Washington University, spoke at a tea on Sunday afternoon, November 27, at Alva Belmont House, Washington, D. C.

Dr. Willard's topic was the status and welfare of women in relation to certain trends in population.

Hostesses for tea were members of the District of Columbia Branch of the National Woman's Party.

ROOMS FOR VISITORS IN WASHINGTON

Headquarters of the National Woman's Party announces that several spacious, sunny rooms in Alva Belmont House at 144 B Street N. E., just a block from the Capitol, are available for the use of members of the National Woman's Party temporarily in Washington.

Rooms, $2.00

Elizabeth Vincent, English Artist,

now in Washington, D. C., will exhibit a group of small flower paintings at Alva Belmont House from December 3 to 7, 1932. Miss Vincent is an interested Feminist and member of the National Woman's Party.

DAY PRINTING COMPANY

PUBLICATIONS AND BOOKS

600 East Lombard Street

Baltimore, Md.